



Phase II and Phase III Archeological Database and Inventory

Site Number: 18CV17

Site Name: Patuxent II

Prehistoric ☒

Other name(s) Stearns, Wallville, CV17N, CV17S

Historic ☐

Brief Description:

Early & Late Archaic and Early, Middle, & Late Woodland shell midden, village

Unknown ☐

Site Location and Environmental Data:

Latitude 38.4018 Longitude -76.5142

Elevation m Site slope 0-5%

Site setting

-Site Setting restricted

-Lat/Long accurate to within 1 sq. mile, user may need to make slight adjustments in mapping to account for sites near state/county lines or streams

Maryland Archeological Research Unit No. 9

SCS soil & sediment code WdA, WdB

Physiographic province Western Shore Coastal

Terrestrial site ☒

Underwater site ☐

Ethnobotany profile available ☒ Maritime site ☐

Nearest Surface Water

Name (if any) Patuxent River

Saltwater

Ocean ☐

Estuary/tidal river ☒

Tidewater/marsh ☐

Spring ☐

Minimum distance to water is 0 m

Freshwater

Stream/river ☐

Swamp ☐

Lake or pond ☐

Temporal & Ethnic Contextual Data:

Paleoindian site ☐

Woodland site ☐

Archaic site ☐

MD Adena ☐

Early archaic ☒

Early woodland ☒

Middle archaic ☐

Mid. woodland ☒

Late archaic ☒

Late woodland ☒

Contact period site ☐

ca. 1820 - 1860 ☐

ca. 1630 - 1675 ☐

ca. 1860 - 1900 ☐

ca. 1675 - 1720 ☐

ca. 1900 - 1930 ☐

ca. 1720 - 1780 ☐

Post 1930 ☐

ca. 1780 - 1820 ☐

Unknown historic context ☐

Unknown prehistoric context ☐

Unknown context ☐

Ethnic Associations (historic only)

Native American ☐

Asian American ☐

African American ☐

Unknown ☐

Anglo-American ☐

Other ☐

Hispanic ☐

Y=Confirmed, P=Possible

Site Function Contextual Data:

Prehistoric

Multi-component ☒

Misc. ceremonial ☐

Village ☒

Rock art ☐

Hamlet ☐

Shell midden ☒

Base camp ☐

STU/lithic scatter ☐

Rockshelter/cave ☐

Quarry/extraction ☐

Earthen mound ☐

Fish weir ☐

Cairn ☐

Production area ☐

Burial area ☐

Unknown ☐

Other context ☐

Historic

Urban/Rural? ☐

Domestic

Homestead ☐

Farmstead ☐

Mansion ☐

Plantation ☐

Row/townhome ☐

Cellar ☐

Privy ☐

Industrial

Mining-related ☐

Quarry-related ☐

Mill ☐

Black/metalsmith ☐

Furnace/forge ☐

Other ☐

Transportation

Canal-related ☐

Road/railroad ☐

Wharf/landing ☐

Maritime-related ☐

Bridge ☐

Ford ☐

Educational

Commercial

Trading post ☐

Store ☐

Tavern/inn ☐

Military

Battlefield ☐

Fortification ☐

Encampment ☐

Townsite

Religious

Church/mtg house ☐

Ch support bldg ☐

Burial area

Cemetery ☐

Sepulchre ☐

Isolated burial ☐

Bldg or foundation

Possible Structure ☐

Post-in-ground ☐

Frame-built ☐

Masonry ☐

Other structure ☐

Slave related

Non-domestic agri

Recreational

Midden/dump ☐

Artifact scatter ☐

Spring or well ☐

Unknown ☐

Other context ☐

Interpretive Sampling Data:

Prehistoric context samples

Soil samples taken ☒

Flotation samples taken ☒

Other samples taken ☐

Historic context samples

Soil samples taken ☐

Flotation samples taken ☐

Other samples taken ☐



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Diagnostic Artifact Data:

Projectile Point Types	
Clovis	<input type="text"/>
Hardaway-Dalton	<input type="text"/>
Palmer	<input type="text"/>
Kirk (notch)	<input type="text"/>
Kirk (stem)	<input type="text"/>
Le Croy	<input type="text"/>
Morrow Mntn	<input type="text"/>
Guilford	<input type="text"/>
Brewerton	<input type="text"/>
Otter Creek	<input type="text"/>
Koens-Crispin	<input type="text"/>
Perkiomen	<input type="text"/>
Susquehanna	<input type="text"/>
Vernon	<input type="text"/>
Piscataway	<input type="text"/>
Calvert	<input type="text"/>
Selby Bay	<input type="text"/>
Jacks Rf (notch)	<input type="text"/>
Jacks Rf (pent)	<input type="text"/>
Madison/Potomac	<input type="text"/> 1
Levanna	<input type="text"/>

Prehistoric Sherd Types

Marcey Creek	<input type="text"/>	Popes Creek	<input type="text"/>	Shepard	<input type="text"/>	Keyser	<input type="text"/>
Dames Qtr	<input type="text"/>	Coulbourn	<input type="text"/>	Townsend	<input type="text"/> 330	Yeocomico	<input type="text"/> 2
Selden Island	<input type="text"/>	Watson	<input type="text"/>	Minguanan	<input type="text"/>	Monongahela	<input type="text"/>
Accokeek	<input type="text"/> 3	Mockley	<input type="text"/> 27	Sullivan Cove	<input type="text"/>	Susquehannock	<input type="text"/>
Wolfe Neck	<input type="text"/>	Clemson Island	<input type="text"/>	Shenks Ferry	<input type="text"/>		
Vinette	<input type="text"/>	Page	<input type="text"/>	Moyaone	<input type="text"/>		
				Potomac Cr	<input type="text"/>		

Historic Sherd Types

Earthenware	Ironstone	<input type="text"/>	Staffordshire	<input type="text"/>	Stoneware	
Astbury	Jackfield	<input type="text"/>	Tin Glazed	<input type="text"/>	English Brown	<input type="text"/>
Borderware	Mn Mottled	<input type="text"/>	Whiteware	<input type="text"/>	Eng Dry-bodie	<input type="text"/>
Buckley	North Devon	<input type="text"/>	Porcelain	<input type="text"/>	Nottingham	<input type="text"/>
Creamware	Pearlware	<input type="text"/>			Rhenish	<input type="text"/>
					Wt Salt-glazed	<input type="text"/>

All quantities exact or estimated minimal counts

Other Artifact & Feature Types:

Prehistoric Artifacts	
Flaked stone	<input type="text"/> 18
Ground stone	<input type="text"/> 1
Stone bowls	<input type="text"/>
Fire-cracked rock	<input type="text"/> 5
Other lithics (all)	<input type="text"/>
Ceramics (all)	<input type="text"/> 362
Rimsherds	<input type="text"/> 1
Other fired clay	<input type="text"/> 1
Human remain(s)	<input type="text"/>
Modified faunal	<input type="text"/> 20
Unmod faunal	<input type="text"/> 11980
Oyster shell	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Floral material	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Uncommon Obj.	<input type="text"/>
Other	<input type="text"/>

Prehistoric Features

Mound(s)	<input type="text"/>	Storage/trash pit	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Midden	<input type="text"/>	Burial(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Shell midden	<input type="text"/>	Ossuary	<input type="checkbox"/>
Postholes/molds	<input type="text"/>	Unknown	<input type="checkbox"/>
House pattern(s)	<input type="text"/>	Other	<input type="checkbox"/>
Palisade(s)	<input type="text"/>		
Hearth(s)	<input type="text"/>		
Lithic reduc area	<input type="text"/>		

Lithic Material

Jasper	<input type="checkbox"/>	Fer quartzite	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sil sandstone	<input type="checkbox"/>
Chert	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Chalcedony	<input type="checkbox"/>	European flint	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rhyolite	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ironstone	<input type="checkbox"/>	Basalt	<input type="checkbox"/>
Quartz	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Argilite	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unknown	<input type="checkbox"/>
Quartzite	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Steatite	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Sandstone	<input type="checkbox"/>		

☒ Dated features present at site

Late Woodland pit within a larger shell midden

Historic Artifacts	
Pottery (all)	<input type="text"/> 2
Glass (all)	<input type="text"/>
Architectural	<input type="text"/>
Furniture	<input type="text"/>
Arms	<input type="text"/>
Clothing	<input type="text"/>
Personal items	<input type="text"/>
Tobacco related	<input type="text"/>
Activity item(s)	<input type="text"/>
Human remain(s)	<input type="text"/>
Faunal material	<input type="text"/>
Misc. kitchen	<input type="text"/>
Floral material	<input type="text"/>
Misc.	<input type="text"/>
Other	<input type="text"/>

Historic Features

Privy/outhouse	<input type="checkbox"/>	Depression/mound	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unknown	<input type="checkbox"/>
Const feature	<input type="checkbox"/>	Burial(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other	<input type="checkbox"/>
Foundation	<input type="checkbox"/>	Well/cistern	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Cellar hole/cellar	<input type="checkbox"/>	Trash pit/dump	<input type="checkbox"/>	Railroad bed	<input type="checkbox"/>
Hearth/chimney	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sheet midden	<input type="checkbox"/>	Earthworks	<input type="checkbox"/>
Postholes/molds	<input type="checkbox"/>	Planting feature	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mill raceway	<input type="checkbox"/>
Paling ditch/fence	<input type="checkbox"/>	Road/walkway	<input type="checkbox"/>	Wheel pit	<input type="checkbox"/>

All quantities exact or estimated minimal counts

Radiocarbon Data:

Sample 1: 650 +/- 60 years BP

Reliability

Sample 2: 491 +/- 125 years BP

Reliability

Sample 3: +/- years BP

Reliability

B-48557: carbon from shell-filled refuse pit, assoc. w/ Late Woodland sherds

Mod

UGA-5581: carbon from shell-filled refuse pit, assoc. w/ Late Woodland sherds

Mod

Sample 4: +/- years BP

Reliability

Sample 5: +/- years BP

Reliability

Sample 6: +/- years BP

Reliability

Sample 7: +/- years BP

Reliability

Sample 8: +/- years BP

Reliability

Sample 9: +/- years BP

Reliability

☐ Additional radiocarbon results available



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Unknown ☐

External Samples/Data:

Collection curated at MAC

☒ Additional raw data may be available online

Summary Description:

The Patuxent II Site (18CV17) is a multi-component shell midden site and possible village locale at the Jefferson Patterson Park and Museum (JPPM) near St. Leonard in Calvert County. The site is situated in an agricultural field on a terrace adjacent to the Patuxent River and was first recognized due to active erosion of midden deposits from the two-meter high bank. Occupation at the site dates to the Early and Late Archaic and Early, Middle, and Late Woodland periods. The surrounding landscape is in agriculture, with wooded field margins. Soils at the site are Woodstown sandy loams.

This site was recorded by the Maryland Geological Survey (MGS) in 1969 based on the notes of Richard Stearns, an avocational archeologist who had collected the site in the 1930s and 1940s. A catalog of Stearns collection from the site made in the 1980s reported that he recovered 2 Accokeek cord-marked sherds, 2 Mockley cord-marked sherds, 7 Rappahannock fabric-impressed sherds, 1 Rappahannock Incised sherd, and a groundstone pipe fragment. A catalog of the collection of one Lana Brown was made in 1981 and revealed that she had recovered a Steubenville stemmed point, 15 Rappahannock fabric-impressed sherds, 2 Rappahannock incised sherds, 140 other Rappahannock sherds, 2 Townsend corded sherds, 8 Mockley net-impressed sherds, 2 Mockley fabric-impressed sherds, 6 Mockley cord-marked sherds, 3 Mockley plain sherds, and an Accokeek cord-impressed sherd from the northern portion of the site and a Rappahannock fabric-impressed sherd, 3 Rappahannock incised sherds and a crushed shell-tempered ceramic platform pipe from the southern portion of the site.

In 1981, Laurie Steponaitis, a researcher from the State University of New York at Binghamton collected 18CV17 as part of a large scale survey of the Patuxent River drainage for thesis research. A core of siliceous-cryptocrystalline stone (probably chert) was recovered, along with 12 other pieces of debitage. At least two eroding storage/refuse pits were observed along the bank of the river. Two historic stoneware sherds were also recovered.

Also in 1981, a preliminary survey was undertaken of the 512 acre Patterson-family property by MHT personnel during the state's acquisition of what would become the Jefferson Patterson Park and Museum. The Patuxent II site was re-identified and active erosion of the shoreline was observed. A large (almost 4 meter wide) prehistoric shell-filled feature was observed eroding from the 2 meter high bank. At that time it was thought that much of the feature already had been lost. In 1984, the remaining portion of the pit was salvaged. During the intervening period (before the property was donated to the State and until the salvage excavation could be conducted), the condition of the feature was closely monitored and any artifacts observed on the beach in the vicinity were recovered and saved separately.

Over a 10-day period in October of 1984, state archeological personnel assisted by volunteers with the Archeological Society of Maryland excavated the eroding shell pit feature. The 4 meter grid used throughout JPPM was extended across 18CV17. Most of the feature was situated within two 2 meter quadrants of a 4 meter square, with the remainder contained within two additional, partly eroded quadrants. Plowzone (approximately 40 cm deep) was excavated in those 4 quadrants and dry-screened through 3/8 inch hardware mesh. Upon removal of the plowzone, 6 cultural strata were identified in the surface of the irregularly-shaped (but probably originally circular) pit, intruding into natural clay subsoil. No additional features were observed.

A total of 12 cultural strata within the feature were excavated. All strata were soil sampled, but no analysis has been published. An oyster shell sample was retained from those strata containing shell (from 33 to 100% of the total). Flotation samples were taken (20%) from two selected strata that gave evidence of containing microscopic organic material. The remainder of the fill was dry-screened through 1/4 inch hardware cloth.

The 12 strata can be broadly segregated into two major types: shell bearing strata and strata containing little or no shell. It appeared that the five shell-bearing strata represented primary refuse dumps that were interspersed with the other seven strata which resulted from the natural filling processes caused by erosion of the exposed pit walls. This evidence suggests that the pit remained open and was filled over an extended period. Artifact analysis generally supports this as the majority of ceramic sherds were recovered from the primary refuse layers. Forty-seven of the sixty-two total ceramic sherds recovered from the pit (75.8%) were retrieved from 3 of the 5 shell-bearing strata. One wash stratum did, however, yield a significant number of sherds (13 or 20.9% of the assemblage).

Without any additional structural evidence from either the pit itself or observed in the area adjacent to it, little could be determined about the pit's function. Interpretation was made even more difficult by the fact that much of the pit (believed to be well over 50% of it) was lost before excavation due to erosion.

The documented assemblage from the 1984 excavations and collections made on the beach below the eroding feature included a stemmed biface, 1 Madison point, 2 primary flakes, 5 pieces of fire-cracked rock, and 167 ceramic sherds. The ceramic assemblage included 2 Yeocomico Plain, 73 Rappahannock Fabric-impressed, 14 Rappahannock Plain, 9 Rappahannock Incised (1 rim), 1 Rappahannock Corded, 62 other Rappahannock sherds, and 6 Mockley sherds.

The ceramic evidence clearly indicates that the pit feature began to be filled toward the end of the Sullivan Cove phase (roughly AD 1250-1600) of the Late Woodland period. Carbon samples collected from the pit feature were sent to two different labs for radiocarbon dating. It is uncertain whether these samples were collected in 1981 or 1984, but they were collected from the pit feature. One sample produced an uncalibrated date of 650 ± 60 radiocarbon years before present, while the other produced a date of 491 ± 125 radiocarbon years before present. These dates correspond to calendrical date ranges (with 2 sigma accuracy) of AD 1267-1411 and AD 1266-1663. Both dates fit well with a Sullivan Cove occupation. Unfortunately, the circumstances of the recovery of the carbon and the dates themselves are poorly documented and no further information is available.

Additional work was carried out at 18CV17 in 1986 and 1988. At least thirty-one 2 X 2 meter units were dug. Unfortunately, no final report was ever produced to document these excavations. Catalogs are available at JPPM. A faunal assemblage of over 12,000 artifacts was collected during the state-sponsored excavations from 1981-1988, most of it consisting of deer bones and oyster shell. Bluefish and blue crabs, two migratory species which are present in the Patuxent River during the summer and autumn, were found at 18CV17, indicating at least a summer and fall residence at that site. Twenty pieces of bone at the site were worked into tools or ornaments.

Based on the findings to-date, 18CV17 appears to be a multi-component shell midden with a significant Late Woodland Sullivan Cove occupation on a high bank overlooking the Patuxent River. Intact features and diagnostic artifacts have been documented at the site. Unfortunately, reporting to-date of the results of excavation has been poor. Not only do the field records and collections from the site present an opportunity for future research, but un-examined portions of



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Brief Description:	Early & Late Archaic and Early, Middle, & Late Woodland shell midden, village			Unknown	<input type="checkbox"/>

the site also may yield additional information. The site should be considered a significant archeological resource.

External Reference Codes (Library ID Numbers):

00000240, 97003032, Site Files